

SIRS Discoverer®

Makes learning fun and intuitive for young students



SIRS®

Open even more eyes

Find even more answers

Explore even more subjects

SIRS Discoverer® opens a world of information to elementary and middle school students

Kid-friendly connections, a wealth of learning resources

Take one look at Discoverer, and you'll understand—we designed it with beginner researchers in mind. The colorful interface is intuitive and easy-to-use for even the youngest children who are hard at work developing their research, writing, language, and computer skills.

Kids love the colorful buttons and simple navigation system. But Discoverer is much more than a user-friendly interface. Once your students click a button, the real genius of Discoverer becomes apparent. There are articles and graphics from more than 1,600 US and international magazines, newspapers, websites, and US government documents—all

carefully selected for their educational content, interest, appropriateness, and level of readability.

Articles are assigned a Lexile score, as well as a reading level (easy, moderate, or challenging) based on content, interest, and readability, to match students to appropriate text. Multiple search methods like subject heading, keyword, and subject tree make it easy to find relevant information. Students can sort their results by relevance, date, or Lexile; and view, print, or email text and graphics in one step. The articles are indexed according to Library of Congress subject headings to ensure the best results. And because Discoverer includes middle and elementary curriculum

topics, it's easy to integrate into classroom activities of all kinds.

Discoverer provides schools with compelling, multidisciplinary learning resources for extending and reinforcing student achievement at all levels. New features correlate resources directly to learning needs. Standards search allows educators to quickly locate and use content aligned to core curricula subjects, as well as technology and health standards. Lexile scores help target resources to individual learners.

Curious young minds deserve the best learning resources available. Discoverer makes it easy to access top-quality, educator-approved resources with a single click.

"SIRS Discoverer allows students to access a variety of material. Teachers can use it to teach research skills and inquiry model. Students can efficiently and safely search the Internet for a variety of information to help them understand and research content curriculum. It is a tool that all schools should have available for their students!"—*Learning Magazine*, Teacher's Choice Award 2005



With SIRS Discoverer,

young students will find everything they need to complete assignments and research:

- **The World Almanac® for Kids**, provides facts and information on a variety of topics.
- **Encyclopedia Britannica** delivers over 17,440 articles on a wide variety of subjects.
- **Country & Culture Facts** features facts and cultural information on nearly 200 countries, including maps and flags, as well as profiles on every US state and Canadian province.
- **Suggested Research Topics** explores information on hot topics and timely issues.
- **Discoverer's Top Pick** features articles and images selected weekly for their exceptional interest and research value.
- **Monthly Spotlight & Challenge Quest** provide articles and questions focusing on a monthly topic chosen for its timeliness and high interest.
- **Current Events** contains full-text articles and graphics with timely information concerning events.
- **Discoverer WebFind®** complements Discoverer with more than 5,000 prescreened weblinks to the latest information on varied topic areas and ever-changing fields.
- Other database features include integrated activities, biographies, fiction, and pictures, plus a dictionary and thesaurus.

To learn more For more information about SIRS Discoverer, call 800-521-0600.

We offer product support materials and workshops designed to help schools effectively integrate ProQuest® resources into the curriculum. Most materials are included as part of a yearly subscription. We can also work with schools and districts to tailor workshops for professional development.

Visit our website at www.proquestk12.com to learn more about our resources and services. Stay up-to-date on your resources by signing up for our monthly ProQuest product bulletins at www.proquestk12.com/news.

About K-12 resources

Since 1938, ProQuest Information and Learning has served as a global leader in collecting, organizing, and distributing value-added information to researchers, educators, and students in libraries, government, universities, and schools in more than 160 countries.

Our eLibrary®, ProQuest®, and SIRS® educational resources unite high-quality content, standards-based curriculum, and online technologies—helping schools deliver on the promise of technology to develop educators' skills and improve student achievement across the curricula.

SIRS Discoverer Curriculum Ideas

Reading & Writing Reading is the fundamental skill that all students must develop to be successful in further education, careers, and in life.

Activity: Equally important is that reading is fun for students in grades 3-8 and Discoverer provides the resources for teachers to take advantage of this. The fiction collections in Discoverer can be printed for classroom reading and discussion, or students can summarize their favorites and present them to the class as part of a mini-research activity.

- Click the Fiction link on the right side of the Search page
- Note the variety of Topics/Subtopics list on the right side
- Students should choose the category that proves to be most engaging for them
- Select two stories and read and summarize them
- Present their summaries to the class in two to three minute oral reports

Science Hurricane season now has new meaning to the country. Since these storms affect so many people, towns, and cities in the U.S., they are a topic that students are willing to explore and research, learning more about science than they could from a textbook.

Increase students' understanding by using engaging questions that go beyond reciting facts, and instead integrate critical thinking and original thought: Why do hurricanes increase or decrease their intensity? Why do hurricanes track in different directions? What research is being done on hurricanes that would decrease their damage in the future?

Activity: SIRS Discoverer's excellent collection of articles, photos, and maps that help students explore this topic.

- Click the Subjects Heading option and then type "hurricanes" in the Search box
- Click the subject "hurricanes"
- Students should select at least two sources that address the engaging question assigned to them
- Teachers should explore the links to activities (symbol = "red a") that support learning about hurricanes and build some of these into the research project